

gan, is the author of the book on 'Volcanoes of North America,' the standard work on the subject. Mr. Borchgrevink, when in the South Polar regions, examined the volcanoes Erebus and Terror, the most southern known volcanoes on the globe. He made a careful study of volcanic conditions in the far south, which will enable him to compare volcanic conditions of the far south with those in the center of the globe.

The three scientists go as the representatives of the National Geographic Society by whom their expenses are paid. On their return they will make a special report to the Society which will be published in the journal of the society, *The National Geographic Magazine*.

The importance of this expedition of the National Geographic Society cannot be too highly appreciated. The United States Government has no funds to send a scientific expedition to foreign territory. It is most important that eruptions which have taken place and are now going on should be studied at the earliest possible moment. A scientific investigation of Mount Pelée on Martinique and La Soufrière on St. Vincent and conditions of the neighboring islands will greatly enhance our knowledge of what is going on in the earth below the surface. The sooner the investigation is started the more comprehensive will be the results.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Council of the Royal Society has recommended for election to membership the following fifteen candidates: Mr. H. Brereton Baker, Professor Henry T. Bovey, Professor Rubert Boyce, Mr. John Brown, Mr. William Bate Hardy, Mr. Alfred Harker, Mr. Sidney S. Hough, Mr. Robert Kidston, Mr. Thomas Mather, Mr. John Henry Michell, Mr. Hugh Frank Newall, Professor William M. Flinders Petrie, Mr. William Jackson Pope, Mr. Edward Saunders and Dr. Arthur Willey.

PROFESSOR C. S. MINOT, of the Harvard Medical School, has been granted leave of absence and will spend part of the year abroad. He will, however, give the presidential address at the Pittsburgh meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science,

and will return for the meetings of scientific societies during Convocation week.

THE Hon. James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture, and Dr. B. F. Galloway, chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, will receive the degree of LL.D. at the Missouri State University at the June commencement.

DR. W. H. METZLER, head of the department of mathematics in Syracuse University, has recently been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

THE gold medal of the London Linnean Society has been awarded to Professor Rudolf Albert von K  lliker, of W  rzburg.

DR. J. E. DUERDEN, of Johns Hopkins University, will take the place, for the coming year, of Professor H. V. Wilson, at the University of North Carolina. Professor Wilson has leave of absence and will spend the year abroad.

MAJOR RONALD ROSS, F.R.S., has been appointed the head of a new department of the Jenner Institute of Preventive Medicine, London. The department is to be devoted to the systematic study of the animal parasites.

THE Lawes Agricultural Trust Committee has appointed Mr. A. D. Hall, principal of the Agricultural College, Wye, to succeed the late Sir Henry Gilbert, F.R.S., as director of the Rothamsted Experimental Station.

PROFESSOR GEORGE E. BEYER, professor of entomology at Tulane University, Dr. Oliver L. Pothier, of the New Orleans Charity Hospital, and Dr. Parker, of the Marine Hospital service, have gone to Vera Cruz, where they will make an inquiry into the relation of the mosquito to yellow fever.

DR. T. A. JAGGAR, of Harvard University, and Dr. E. O. Hovey, of the American Museum of Natural History have proceeded to the seat of the volcanic disturbances at St. Pierre for geological investigation.

MR. PERRY O. SIMONS, for the past three years engaged in the collection of scientific specimens in Chile and other South American countries for the British Museum, has been murdered by a native guide.

MR. WILLIAM JOLLIFFE, a well-known civil engineer, has died at Roanoke, Va.

SENHOR AUGUSTO SEVERO, the Brazilian aeronaut, was killed, with his assistant, while making a trial trip in his air-ship on May 12.

MR. J. V. MANSEL-PLEYDEL, the author of several works on the fauna and flora of Dorset, died on May 2, aged eighty-four years. The death is also announced of Mr. John Glover, the inventor of improved methods in the manufacture of sulphuric acid.

Nature says: The death of Professor H. von Pechmann, in sad circumstances, on April 24, is a great loss to the science of chemistry in Germany. He had been ill for a long time past, suffering, it would appear, from an incurable nervous trouble and frequent attacks of mental depression. That he might be restored to health he was granted a long leave of absence, and on resuming his duties was seemingly better than he had been for some time. But soon after his return he again became depressed and, while in that state, put an end to his life by taking strong sulphuric acid in his laboratory. Professor von Pechmann was only fifty-two years of age, having been born in 1850, and the University of Tübingen will feel his loss very keenly. Appointed to the chair of chemistry at the last-mentioned university in 1895 in succession to Professor Lothar Meyer, his skill in teaching and his personal charm were such that the number of students under him increased very considerably and, as a consequence, the enlargement of his laboratory and lecture-theater was regarded as necessary. The late professor was a native of Nuremberg, and descended from an old Bavarian family of great social influence.

ACCORDING to an official statement recently issued the endowment of the Nobel Foundation is about \$7,500,000, and the value of each of the five prizes to be awarded at the close of the present year will be nearly \$40,000.

A CIVIL service examination will be held on June 10 for the position of forestry inspector in the Philippines. It is expected that there will be four appointments at a salary of \$1,800 and two at a salary of \$1,200.

THE final appraisement of the estate of the late Jacob S. Rogers shows a value of \$6,063,173. After deducing the costs of administration and the legacies it is estimated that the residuary estate which will go to the Metropolitan Museum of Art under the will is \$5,547,922.60.

MR. JULIUS WERNHER has contributed £1,500 toward an endowment fund for the Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, London.

THE Senate has passed the bill authorizing the Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries to establish a biological station on the Great Lakes at some appropriate point in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, or Minnesota to be selected by him. For the purpose of conducting an investigation as to the most suitable site for such station, and for acquiring by lease, purchase, or otherwise the necessary land and water rights for the erection of such buildings, wharves, and other structures as may in future be necessary for the proper equipment of the station, \$10,000 is appropriated.

THE twenty-seventh annual meeting of the American Academy of Medicine will convene at Saratoga, on June 7, and continue during Monday, June 9. The officers of the Academy are: *President*, Dr. V. C. Vaughan, Ann Arbor, Mich.; *Secretary*, Dr. Charles McIntire, Easton.

THE thirty-third meeting of the Eastern Association of Physics Teachers will be held in Boston, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, on May 24, at 2 P.M. The subject of the discussion is 'The Correlation of Manual Training in Physics,' opened by President G. Stanley Hall, of Clark University, who will be followed by Mr. J. M. Jameson, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mr. C. B. Howe, High School, Hartford, Conn.; Mr. C. W. Parmenter, Mechanic Arts High School, Boston, Mass.; Mr. C. F. Warner, Mechanic Arts High School, Springfield, Mass.; Mr. C. R. Allen, High School, New Bedford, Mass.; and Mr. F. M. Gilley, High School, Chelsea, Mass.

At the annual meeting of the Institution of Civil Engineers, London, Mr. Charles Hawks-

ley, president, in the chair, the result of the ballot for the election of officers was declared as follows: President, Mr. J. C. Hawkshaw, M.A.; Vice-Presidents, Sir William White, K.C.B., Mr. F. W. Webb, Sir Guilford Molesworth, K.C.I.E., and Sir Alexander Binnie. The council have made the following awards for papers read and discussed before the institution during the past session: A Telford gold medal to Mr. W. M. Mordey, and a George Stephenson gold medal to Mr. B. M. Jenkin, M.Inst.C.E., a Watt gold medal to Mr. J. A. F. Aspinall, M.Inst.C.E., and Telford premiums to Messrs. W. C. Copperthwaite, A. H. Haigh, B.Sc., and J. Davis, M.Inst.C.E. The council have also awarded the Howard quinquennial prize of the institution to Mr. R. A. Hadfield, M.Inst.C.E. (of Sheffield), for his scientific work in investigating methods of treatment and new alloys of steel and on account of the importance in industry of some of the new products introduced by him.

THE forty-fifth meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers will be held in Huntington Hall, Boston, from May 27 to 30 inclusive.

AN extra meeting of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers will be held on Wednesday, May 28, at 8:15 P.M., at the house of the American Society of Civil Engineers, New York City. It will be devoted to the general subject of electricity in the army and navy.

THE seventh annual congress of the South-eastern Union of Scientific Societies, as we learn from *Nature*, will be held at Canterbury on June 5-7. On Thursday, June 5, the president-elect, Dr. Jonathan Hutchinson, F.R.S., will deliver the annual address. The following papers will be read during the meeting: 'The Marine Aquarium, without Circulation or Change of Water,' by Mr. Sibert Saunders; 'Recent Researches on Mimicry in Insects,' by Professor E. B. Poulton, F.R.S.; 'The Preservation of our Indigenous Flora, its Necessity, and the Means of accomplishing it,' by Professor G. S. Boulger and Mr. E. A. Martin; 'Borings in the Neighborhood of Canterbury,' by Mr. W. Whitaker, F.R.S.; 'Mycorrhiza, the

Root Fungus,' by Miss Annie Lorrain Smith. There will be an excursion to the Southeastern Agricultural College, Wye, by the kind invitation of the principal, Professor A. D. Hall, who will explain the valuable experimental work now being carried on in connection with the college.

A CONVERSAZIONE of the British Institution of Electrical Engineers will be held in the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, on Tuesday, July 1.

The British Medical Journal reports that Dr. Verneau, president of the Anthropological Society of Paris, has examined four sets of human remains discovered in the grottos near Mentone during the researches lately ordered by the Prince of Monaco. They are stated to have belonged to the quaternary period, and they were found at no great distance from the surface. The skeletons are small, and the skulls are described as strongly developed, and of the dolichocephalic type. There were large nasal orifices. The race they represent is believed to have had low-pointed features. The arms were long and distinctly negroid. The summary of the examination so far by Dr. Verneau seems to favor the idea that these human remains belonged to creatures holding a place between the baboons and negroes.

A REPORT on the brake tests by the Automobile Club on May 1 has been published. The action of seventeen different types of automobile, of a victoria drawn by horses, a four-in-hand coach and a bicycle ridden by an expert, a member of the police bicycle squad, was compared. The results were as follows, speed and distance covered in stop being taken:

| Vehicle. | Speed. | Distance. |
|--------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Automobile | 8 to 9 m. per hr. | 9 feet, average. |
| Victoria | ditto | 17 " |
| Four-in-hand | ditto | 26 " |
| Bicycle | ditto | 8 " |
| Automobiles | 15 miles | 29 feet. |
| Victoria | ditto | 37 " |
| Four-in-Hand | ditto | 77½ " |
| Automobiles | 20 miles | 53 feet. |
| Four-in-hand | ditto | 91 " |
| Bicycle | ditto | 61½ " |

About ninety runs were made, the course being laid out on the Riverside Drive. The technical committee of the club reports that the impression produced was that eight miles an hour is a very slow pace and that the evidence that the automobile can be stopped much more quickly than any other vehicle and can be manœuvred with much greater ease and convenience is positive and ample. They are said to be a much safer conveyance than the horse-drawn vehicle.

REUTER'S agency has received despatches announcing the safe arrival on March 23, at Gildessa, on the Abyssinia frontier, of Mr. W. Fitzhugh Whitehouse, Jr., the American explorer, and Lord Hindlip. The explorers left England at the beginning of the year with the intention of making a journey from Zeila to the Upper Nile. When the despatches were written, the travelers were in good health and had been able to secure ample camel and other transport. At Jibuti they were joined by Dr. Victor Bell. The party expected to reach the Abyssinian capital, and after making a stay with Colonel Harrington, the British agent, proposed to resume the journey either *via* the Sobat or the Blue Nile. On leaving Adis Abeba it was Mr. Whitehouse's intention to spend a month in the 'devil-infested' region of Walamo in order to investigate the cause of the native belief that the country is possessed by demons.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

OVER \$800,000 have been subscribed towards the endowment fund of \$1,000,000 for the Johns Hopkins University. This fund will be used to support and enlarge the work of the University, not for the construction of buildings on the new site as has been stated in some of the newspapers.

BRYN MAWR COLLEGE has secured \$200,000 toward the \$250,000 needed to meet the conditional gift of \$250,000 from Mr. John D. Rockefeller.

PRESIDENT WHEELER, of the University of California, has announced that gifts aggregating \$80,000 have been made to the Uni-

versity. One of the largest is that of D. O. Mills, of New York, who gives \$50,000 to be added to the fund of \$100,000 given by him twenty-one years ago for the establishment of the Mills professorship of moral philosophy and civil polity.

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE has received \$32,500 from the estate of the late F. W. Daniels of Winchester, Mass. Mr. Daniels was a member of the class of 1868.

MR. FRANCIS E. LOOMIS has established a fellowship in physics at Yale University, open to graduates of the academical department, and the Sheffield Scientific School.

AN institution has been established at Milan by M. Ferdinand Bocconi with an endowment of \$200,000 to give scientific training for commercial work.

THE regular work of the Gordon Memorial College at Khartoum in the Soudan will be started next year. It will be remembered that on the initiative of Lord Kitchener about \$1,600,000 was subscribed in memory of General Gordon.

PROFESSOR FREDERIC S. LEE will next year offer a course in physiology to students of Columbia College, the work in physiology having hitherto been confined to the Medical School. Mrs. Lee has given \$500 toward equipping the laboratory.

PROFESSOR S. W. WILLISTON, now of the University of Kansas, has been elected head professor of paleontology at the University of Chicago.

DR. HERMAN SCHLUNDT has recently been elected instructor in physical chemistry at the University of Missouri. Dr. Schlundt took his degree at the University of Wisconsin last June. At Missouri he will have sole charge of the work in physical chemistry.

DR. JOSEPH SWAIN, president of Indiana University and formerly professor of mathematics there and at Stanford University, has been offered the presidency of Swarthmore College.

LORD ROSEBERRY has been elected chancellor of the University of London, in succession to the late Earl of Kimberley.